

LEGAL NOTICE

The Department of the Navy has initiated steps for a planned removal action to address the presence of hazardous substances in soils at Area A, Sites 1, 2, and 3, at the former Naval Air Warfare Center (NAWC) National Priorities List (NPL) site in Warminster, Bucks County, Pennsylvania. An Action Memorandum prepared by the Navy, describing the planned soil removal and other actions designed to protect human health and the environment, was signed by the Navy on June 10, 1998. These actions are being funded by the Navy, the lead federal agency for this project, with the support of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), consistent with the National Contingency Plan (NCP) Section 300.415 and the Department of Defense Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Act of 1990.

These actions are proposed as the next step of cleanup at the former NAWC Warminster under the Navy's Installation Restoration Program (IRP) in response to requirements of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). The purpose of the clean-up is to support the planned transfer of former Navy research and development facilities to local ownership for local public and economic benefit.

Area A is located in the northwestern corner of the former NAWC Warminster, between Jacksonville Road and the SEPTA commuter line railroad tracks west of the base, and generally north of the wastewater treatment plant, fuel farm area, and Parking Lot No. 2. A remedial investigation (RI) performed at Area A concluded that compounds in surface soil, subsurface soil, and buried materials could pose threats to nearby residents, ecological receptors, and groundwater supplies.

Options considered for addressing contaminated soils and buried materials associated with Area A included combinations of removal for treatment/disposal off-site, capping in place with a protective cover, erosion control considerations, and land use restrictions.

The preferred selection of the Navy is excavation of surface and subsurface soils at Sites 1, 2, and 3 which contain contaminant levels greater than protective risk-based concentrations; disposal of these soils at an off-base landfill; and placement of native soil "clean" cover for excavated areas. These actions will help eliminate direct exposure to contaminated soils; overland runoff to a nearby stream; and migration of contaminants from soil to groundwater.

The proposed combination of excavation, disposal, and native soil cover is an effective and costefficient method to reduce potential risks from Area A sites. This removal action will begin later this summer and is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

Comments or questions should be directed to Mr. Tom Ames, Caretaker Site Office, P.O. Box 2609, Warminster, PA 18974-0061.

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